

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LONDON 16391 241730Z

44

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 OFA-01 CG-00 DLOS-04 DOTE-00

EB-07 INT-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

COME-00 /076 W

----- 127609

P R 241723Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5879

INFO AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK PRIORITY

CINCLANT

COMICEDEFOR

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, EFIS, IC, US

SUBJECT: UK - ICELAND FISHING TALKS

REF: LONDON 16064

1. SECOND ROUND OF UK/ICELAND FISHING TALKS WHICH
BEGAN IN LONDMN OCTOBER 23 BROKE UP AT NOON, OCTOBER
24, WITHOUT DEADLOCK BEING RESOLVED. NEXT MEETING
WILL TAKE PLACE IN REYKJAVIK DURING WEEK NOVEMBER 3 AT
SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL LEVEL. IT WILL BE FOLLOWED
AS SOON AS POSSIBLE BY A FURTHER MINISTERIAL MEETING.

2. IT IS NOW CLEAR THAT FISHING AGREEMENT WILL RUN
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PAGE 02 LONDON 16391 241730Z

OUT ON NOVEMBER L3 WITHOUT AN AGREEMENT BEING REACHED.

FCO MINISTER OF STATE HATTERSLEY TOLD ICELAND FORNMIN AGUSTSSON THAT AS IT IS CLEARLY NOT PRACTICABLE TO REACH AGREEMENT BEFORE THE 13TH, HE HOPED THAT ICELANDERS WOULD CONSIDER THE CLOCK WAS STOPPED WHILE NEGOTIATIONS AONTINUED. AGUSTSSON HAD NO ANSWER WHEN PRESSED ON WHAT THE ICELANDERS WILL DO. MAFF OFFICIAL WHO ATTENDED MEETING STATED ICELANDERS NEVER SEEM TO BE ABLE TO MAIE DECISION UNTIL THEY HAVE HAD CHANCE TO GO HOME AND JAWBONE THEIR COLLEAGUES.

3. MAFF OFFIAIAL STATES THAT MAIN ISSUE REMAINS ANNUAL TONNAGE WITH UK PRESSING FOR PRESENT TOTAL OF 130,000 TONS PER YEAR TO BE MAINTAINED. ICELANDIC PROPOSAL OF 50,000 TONS IS DESCRIBED AS BEING SO LOW THAT IT WOULD EFFECTIVELY END UK FISHING IN ICELANDIC WATERS. MAFF OFFICIAL DESCRIBED ATMOSPHERE OF MEETING AS "GOOD." HE STATED IT WAS HIS IMPRESSION THAT NEITHER SIDE CAN SEE HOW SITUATION CAN BE RESOLVED BUT THAT BOTH ARE CONVINCED THAT IT WILL BE.

RICHARDSON

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Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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